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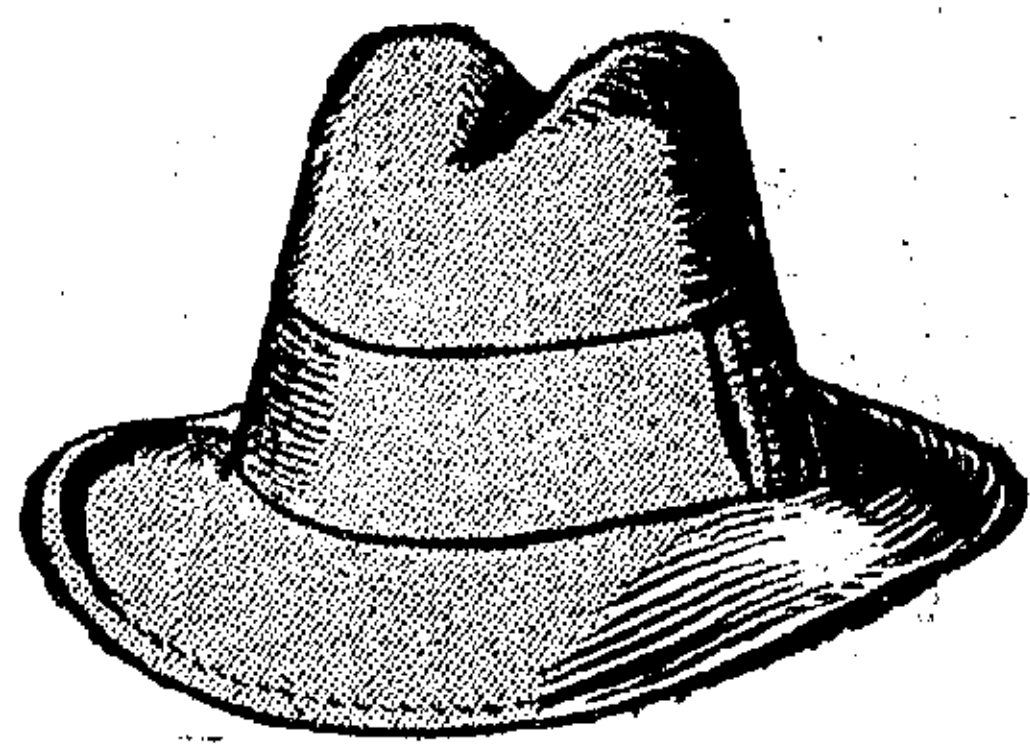
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GERMAN SHIPPERS' MISGIVINGS.

AN INDEMNITY THE ONLY HOPE.

The German Press has been giving signs of late of misgiving for the future of the shipping trade. The appearance of a number of stories along that line do not give the impression of being merely coincidental, but are an evidence of a growing concern with which important main interests of Germany are concerned.

Already the *Vorwärts*, as the leading Socialistic organ, has expressed deep concern as to how German traders will be able—since Germany's leaders have drawn upon the Fatherland the hate and open enmity of the whole world—to resume in peace time commercial relations with other Great Powers.

Recently the *Jingo Deutsche Tageszeitung* opened its columns to an article by a well-informed writer who places all Germany's hopes for a commercial future on the thin thread of a war indemnity.

"Germany's warehouses are empty of raw material," he declares, "and after the war they will have to be filled again. Certainly merchants and bankers will be given credit when they resume their operations abroad, but that will not be sufficient to cover the tremendous demands made by the necessity for filling our empty warehouses again. We must remember that after the war the coming into the market of such a large quantity of German goods will send up prices considerably, all the more so when the other big buyers compete, as they will do. He who can pay promptly will everywhere have the advantage. As Germany will, for a time, not be able to export much to pay for raw material, she will find it difficult to pay quickly."

INDEMNITY THE SITUATION.

How is that difficulty to be overcome? asks Mr. George Renwick, in *The London Chronicle*. "We must have a war indemnity. But he thinks no one will be able to pay over such enormous sums as are required to cover Germany's war expenditure, now five thousand million pounds (\$25,000,000,000); but he suggests that a war indemnity need not be all in cash."

The writer in *Count Revett's* *Jingo* and *agrarian paper* then goes on to unfold a delightful scheme. Raw material to the extent which Germany used up during the war is to be provided by the Fatherland's beaten enemies. The Berlin Government will distribute that among the different industries, and will take war loan scrip as payment; thus at the same time providing the necessary raw material to the nation's industries and reducing the amount of the indebtedness of the State in the matter of interest upon loans.

The *Weser Zeitung*, the important Bremen journal, publishes an article by a shipping expert, showing that the German shipping industry will be in a serious position after the war. He reminds his countrymen that they must not rely on submarine to clear the world of the shipping of other countries and to leave Germany supreme. "From the German standpoint (he says) there is also this fact to be considered. German shipping companies have also suffered very heavily on account of the war; indeed, their losses are heavier than those of other countries." His way out of the difficulty is "an indemnity from the State to shipping companies for all losses suffered during the war."

ONE METHOD OF SALVATION. Those papers which joyfully shouted out that America's coming into the war made little difference are blandly told by the expert that the additional foe in the West will bring about a state of affairs which will cause that indemnity—not a war indemnity to the German State, but a trade indemnity from the German State to German industries—to be all the greater.

Another interesting article is contributed to the *Cologne Volkszeitung* by Herr Edward Achelis, the commercial and industrial magnate of Bremen, and a leading member of the Bremen Chamber of Commerce. He has much to say that must be discouraging reading for the German. He sets this question: "Will German shipping companies be able to bear and overcome their very heavy war losses and remain in capable competition with those foreign companies which have attained great strength?"

"It is questionable (he declares) if our companies can earn such profit as foreign companies have earned, especially during war; and even if we could to some extent do that, then the greater cost of shipbuilding material, the higher wages, and the smaller amount of tonnage in use would have to be set off against it, and it would certainly bring no adequate return for our great war losses. It will be of great national importance that as soon as possible after the conclusion of peace the German flag shall be seen in the farthest harbours of the world. But as German industry will not immediately after the war be able to export in great quantities, there will be a lack of cargoes, and ships will not be laden to the full extent. Small cargoes mean that we shall have to reckon with further loss, and further sacrifices on the part of shipping companies."

Having presented that mournful picture, Herr Achelis goes into a long examination of the question of nationalization of the whole shipping enterprise of Germany. He decides against it mainly on account of the fact that while nationalization may be beneficial in cases of industrial activities which do not go beyond the frontiers of the country, it is impossible where activity is not so limited. Thus, then, he answers his question in the negative. German shipping companies, especially those of the great northern ports, cannot, unsupported, overcome the difficulties of the situation and their war losses. Only one method of salvation he sees; that is for the State to step in, not as owner but as helper, with money, so that the companies may be assisted over the lean years, and eventually become self-supporting and paying concerns again.

Most people will think these experts are somewhat late in seeing the consequences of the war which Germany forged on the world. But that they are beginning to be aware of them even now may bring into existence one influence the more against the ruling militarism of Prussia.

IN MILITARY HOSPITAL. WARD HUMOURS AND FADS.

Distinctions of rank are abrogated in a military hospital to a large extent. The officer of very exalted rank has special quarters where he meets only other high-ranking officers; but, for the rest, major and "pipsqueak" (the odious term which is vainly designed to lessen the self-importance of the second-lieutenant) fraternize in a common cheerfulness. There are no rank badges on pyjamas. But one distinction has intruded—that between surgical cases and medical cases. The medical case must bear himself very humbly if he gets into a ward where there are surgical cases. Even that kindly authority "Sister" will in some unguarded moment, unless she is very, very careful, refer to him as "only a medical case."

One medical case, taught cunning by circumstances, discovered when he was being moved from one hospital to another that a special sort of headache he suffered from could be relieved by a large, impressive bandage. With this head adornment a rumour went around that he was a trepanned case, and as Rumour stalked from bed to bed the size of the silver plate in his skull grew and grew until it was almost the size of a potato allotment. His shameful secret was at length discovered; he was only a fever or a head-ache something, and whilst we were all sorry for him he no longer disputed favour with our ward pet—a delightfully cheerful pipsqueak whose body is so be-stitched that we feel sure they had a sewing machine in the operating room for him. Except for the medical cases over whose happiness there is a wee cloud, and for those cases who cannot hope to get back to the front but can only look forward to tab-carriage in the future, we are a very cheerful crowd. Our chief interests, apart from the war, are wounds, food, drink, and the vagaries of the War Office regarding sick leave. Officers at the front have a comradely way of writing to their wounded fellows, and these letters are a clear delight. Not only do they tell of the old scenery, the much-cursed yet still attractive trenches, but they show to the junior officer his seniors in a new light. Many temporary officers have known only the severe, the "discipline," side of generals and colonels, because there has been in their time of service no opportunity to find out the other side of the military Freemasonry.

When in sick bay pipsqueak gets a raging and altogether charming letter from his general or colonel he begins to learn something of that other side. It is etiquette in a military hospital to be very much interested in the other chap's wounds and to affect to hold lightly one's own. It is very bad form to hint that your lot is more severe than his lot.

"Oh, I am all right, old man (you say in answer to his first advances: "Except for a bit of my liver and a few yards of lung blown away, I'm as fit as can be. But that looks awfully leg of you." "Not at all, not at all." It is almost certain now to stay on. But it must be horribly interesting to have a "body wound."

Food and drink discussions are made a little flat by the patient who has been here to know what could be done. Last year, clearly, Lucullus was in charge of the kitchen. The breakfast egg was served warm from the fowl. Wine was a-mocking at every meal—all sorts of wine, from champagne, with its heady gaiety, to burgundy, with deep, manly laughter, and port, with its wise old chuckle. Well, the Golden Age was always in the past. Nowadays we have as much or more good, well-cooked food as we can manage to eat. Chicken and fish are no less good under their pet names of "sea-gull" and "shark," and the very young nurse, with the tender appearance, really does not go about in fear that she will be killed for the pot—as she pretends. But drink—drink in the wicked and attractive sense of the word—that you only get as the reward of your bow and spear, so to speak. If you are one of the unfortunate cases who on medical authority would be prejudiced by "alcohol" you will get no drink on any account, and so you need not worry. But if you are a case that can drink there is play for some ingenuity in getting a reasonable quantity of "creature comfort."

If claret is your objective a delicate appetite is the best method of attack. Any officer who has had the forethought to procure a small box of biscuits can usually obtain a delicate enough appetite to justify a regular ration of claret. Beer is, more easily obtainable, but calls for little finesse, rather for an English bulldog pertinacity in asking. Whisky seems to surrender most easily to the pathetic touch. There is a fine braw Scot in our ward who would sigh over the bonnie braes and the purling haggies of Scotland every meal time and subtly indicate that a Scot without his whisky was but a pail, miserable, unkempt creature, and an exile in a strange land. He finally got his whisky ration approved on Burns Day, 1917. It will be remembered that on that day (January 25th) a British Government cut down the nation's liquor supply—beer and whisky—by 30 per cent. This affront to Scotland's natural (and somewhat Bacchic) poet evidently weighed deeply on the heart of our Scots officer. The medical officer was touched and a whisky ration ordered. A ration once ordered stands. It is our belief that thereafter it can be countermanded only by a decision of the War Cabinet.

When the cold snap came air-supply became the issue of greatest importance. The Briton in bed seems to lose a good deal of his ordinary respect for fresh air, and trench life rather familiarises one with the idea that fog is a good thing. In our ward those few of us who still kept our faith in fresh air, even cold fresh air, had a hard fight until one genius thought of white mice. Night and day windows and ventilators would be closed down surreptitiously until the air was like that

(Continued at foot of next column.)

A HAUNTED BATH-HOUSE. ANOTHER KOBE MYSTERY.

Ghost stories in Japan are said to be associated with the warm weather, and it is therefore fitting that the rise in temperature in Kobe should be simultaneous with the appearance of a ghost.

About a fortnight ago, says the *Japan Chronicle*, an old woman died while taking a bath at a bath-house at Onoye-dori, 4-chome. A few days later another old woman was taken ill in the same bath-house, and died two days later. It is said that before she died she related that when she was taking a bath, although there was nobody else in the room, she heard her name faintly called from the bath-tub. A few minutes later she heard her name repeated. The woman told the bath-house keeper what had occurred, but he would not believe it. The old lady was taken ill very soon after, and died two days later.

This incident soon began to be noised about among the neighbours with the usual exaggerations, and the number of patrons of the bath-house rapidly fell off. This state of affairs has affected the bath-house keeper much more than the alleged appearance of a ghost, and he is making an attempt to restore the damaged reputation of his house by obtaining the services of a street advertising agent, who has been giving a series of street lectures on the absurdity of the ghost story and calling upon former patrons to return to the bath-house. It is, however, doubtful whether this plan will have the effect of laying the ghost. Indeed, it is not improbable that it will have the effect of spreading the story, and thus further reducing the number of visitors.

NATURAL GREEN SILK. NEW PRODUCT OF SHANTUNG.

According to information received by the Shanghai Silk Guild from silk merchants of Shantung, the Industrial School of Shantung, which has been conducting some scientific work for raising silk-worms, has discovered a new kind of silk-worm that produces silk of a natural green colour. The cocoons are said to be larger than the ordinary size and they produce, of course, more silk. The colour is pleasing and fast without any process. It is not known whether the production of green silk is the result of special feeding or of the discovery of a new species of worm. According to foreign merchants who have seen the specimen of the various grades of green silk, the products are good and the silk woven with such raw material is beautiful in colour. Numerous enquiries have been made regarding the new discovery, and it is expected that a good market will be found for it. Hitherto only natural white and yellow silks have been obtainable. With the production of natural green silk it may also be possible to produce other colours.

JOHN CHINAMAN AND WILHELM.

John Chinaman sat on the cushioned seat in the shade of the Peking wall. And long he looked at the reddened west, where the smoke hung low like a pall. John Chinaman narrowed his almond eyes as he gazed at his grinning joss. For he wanted a bet on the All-in Stakes, and couldn't decide on his loss!

In other days, when the craft of men in the market-place was sold, John Chinaman bartered his shining silk at the glint of the German gold. But when Wilhelm asked that he cash his cheque as a help to win the war—John Chinaman opened his eyes again, and murmured a bland "Whaffer!"

John Chinaman sat on the narrow fence, nor would he choose a side. While victory drifted to and fro, like a cork on the surging tide. All blind was he to the tempting bait of a brand new Iron Cross. For better a cycle of Cathay than a year with a German boss!

John Chinaman looked across his fields, and a light stole into his eye. As he saw the masts of the war lord's ships, where they huddled in old Shanghai.

Then he took his pen, and he scrawled a note that the Kaiser might take look at. "When you make out a list of your foes to-night, say, Bill, you might just add me!"

—Melbourne Argus.

of a submarine after a long dive. But the white mice story worked wonders.

Very artfully the story was spread around that the medical staff had ordered a supply of white mice for the ward. Two cages of white mice were to be kept and Sister would take their pulps and their temperature every hour. When the mice were found to be on the point of death, but not until then a window would be opened. By this means, we said, the medical staff hoped to avert such unpleasant incidents as the death of officers during the night from suffocation. The white mice were not an absolutely certain precaution; but with careful observation the best was hoped for.

To what extent the white mice story was believed it is not possible to say. Our sister helped us loyally by producing a very small clinical thermometer which, she said, was for taking the temperatures of white mice. But accepted, or half accepted, the yarn did its work. Windows were kept open and the air was less hum-like.

We plead guilty. Life is rather frivolous in our ward. We cannot help it. It is the national temperament. The Hun in hospital is bad tempered and fearful (poor devil, it is perhaps because he is in a country so strange to his ideas); the Frenchman is brave, adorably grateful, but apt to be pathetic; the "Tommy" is incurably frivolous. From first to last he looks upon being wounded as rather a joke.

THE NEW ANZACS.

[BY AN ANZAC.]

Mr. Masfield in his immortal little book "Gallipoli," which future generations of Australians will read with pride and tears, ranked the original Anzacs with the finest body of young men assembled together in modern times. He was speaking of their physique, their intelligence, and their bearing.

Since then an additional quarter of a million young Australians have enlisted and crossed the seas, and could Mr. Masfield walk through our camps to-day he would see bodies of recruits who in their intelligence and physique and their singular aptitude for soldiering are the peers of that wonderful first legion.

In the men now coming forward there is lacking in some measure perhaps that eager spirit of adventure, that exultant patriotism which distinguished the men who first answered the call. The men who enlist in Australia now are in no fine fever of enthusiasm; they come up soberly and thoughtfully, with a full sense of the grim fighting ahead, and with most of them the delay has been due not to any slacking but to responsibilities which could not be sooner put aside. Of the seven men in my tent during training four were married. Probably the majority of our recruits to-day are family men to whom enlistment means leaving their homes and affairs on the other side of the world for an indefinite period. There is no "home leave" for the Australian soldier in this war. Since the fighting began only the sick and wounded have been seen by their families. There can never be another "Landing," but the men volunteering now are good for tasks equally formidable. Of the many hundreds in my troopship one in three would have rejoiced the eye of any officer of the Guards.

LAUGHING CAMPS.

Rare native intelligence and an infinite sense of humour are the strongest qualities of our recruits. There is much the young Australian does not know; he is often sadly deficient in knowledge or even interest about anything that occurred upon this earth before he was born. He is through and through a citizen of a very young country. But despite his limited range of vision and sympathy, and his frank scorn of other lands and other ages, he has few, if any, equals as a comrade.

His physique is something ceaselessly to rejoice about: so tall, so supple, and graceful and strong. There is perhaps no race at once so light of foot and powerful of body. And his physique is only the beginning of him. Where in this war will you find such a flow of shrewd unconventional wit as in Australian trenches and camps? Among these boys of our young Army, with their exuberant youth exalted by the splendour of the cause which they serve, you discover all day and night a rushing stream of high spirits, a love of a jest that truly is a jest, and an instinctive touch for the heart of things, for which you will seek in vain among all classes in older and—for this generation—less generous lands. Our camps are great laughing holiday places.

The young Australian soldier makes one condition. If you want him to work you must keep him keenly interested. No man can work more rapidly and convincingly. Put the men in an artillery camp on the guns in the blazing heat of an Australian December day, and they double and halve gain all day. They cannot get enough of it. They will play football on the hard, dusty ground after breakfast, and probably engage in a weight-lifting competition after lunch.

A MISSING SON'S GRAVE. OFFICER'S DISCOVERY ON THE BATTLEFIELD.

One of the most poignant stories of the war—how a father found on the battlefield the grave of his flying son, who had been "missing" for eight weeks—reached London recently.

On March 19th Captain Eldred Wolferstan Bowyer-Bower, East Surrey and Royal Flying Corps, went up to make a reconnaissance. Eye-witnesses state that he had passed from five to seven miles behind the then Hindenburg Line when he was attacked by six enemy airmen. His machine was seen to descend.

The British advance came weeks later. In the vanguard was a detachment of Royal Engineers, which included the missing airman's father, Captain T. Bowyer-Bower. The father, an aviator, that not far away was a grave marked by a cross made from pieces of a wrecked aeroplane, which bore in pencil the words: "The unknown captain of the Flying Corps."

Knowing that his son had been brought down close by, he determined to inspect the grave. The number on the remains of the aeroplane convinced him that his son lay buried there. And stuck on to the primitive cross with a piece of mud was the tag of a tunic bearing the name of the London tailor who had made his son's uniform.

Permission was obtained to exhume the body, and the father found that it was that of his son. It was buried with the body of the observer. The clothes had been stripped of all valuables and the identification discs had been removed. The bodies were removed to the cemetery of a little village a few miles away, and while they were being placed in coffins on the battlefield the Germans shelled and sniped the men engaged in the task.

Captain E. W. Bowyer-Bower was at Sandhurst when the war started, and, joining the East Surrey Regiment without waiting to pass his examinations, he went through Loos, Hallen, and the second gas attack on Ypres before passing into the R.F.C. in April, 1916. He was the only son of Captain T. and Mrs. Bowyer-Bower, of 30, Bramham-gardens, South Kensington, S.W., and Ashanti, Gold Coast, and grandson of Major-General Henry Bower, who went through the Indian Mutiny and the Burmese War. His father came home to fight when the war broke out.

HONGKONG MAGISTRACY.

ALLEGED CONSPIRACY.

Two Chinese were charged with conspiracy. Detective Sergt. Cockle said that it was a case of kidnapping, and that the Secretary for Chinese Affairs would be prosecuting.

The case was adjourned.

THEFT OF BAGS.

Two Chinese coolies pleaded guilty to a charge of stealing 33 hemp bags from a cargo junk which was lying off Connaught Road West. They were each sentenced to four months' hard labour, and four hours' stocks in lieu of the last day.

A MYSTERIOUS KNIFE.

A Chinese sailor who was found to have a knife attached to a girdle which he was wearing, and who could not give a satisfactory explanation of why he was wearing it, beyond the fact that he had bought it in Holland, was fined \$10 by Mr. Dyer Ball, and the knife was ordered to be confiscated.

OPIUM.

A Chinese woman who was arrested on board the *Hong On* was found to be in possession of 25 taels of opium. It was stated that the drug was tied around the woman's waist.

Mr. Wood imposed a fine of \$1,000, or, in default, four months' hard labour, and the opium was also ordered to be confiscated.

INCAPABLE.

Andres M. Losen, the ship's officer who was found drunk and incapable in Water Street, West Point, was again before Mr. Wood.

In answer to the charge, the defendant stated that he had lost his pocket book, which contained \$150, in addition to valuable papers, and that his watch and chain had also disappeared.

He was ordered to pay a fine of \$5.

DISHONEST SHOPKEEPER.

Inspector Terrett summoned a Chinese shopkeeper whose scales were 45 per cent. against the purchaser. The Inspector said it was one of the worst cases of faulty scales he had ever known. Besides a basket having been affixed, the scales had been deliberately altered by the defendant by the addition of a number of cash. The scales, even without the basket, were nine per cent. against the purchaser.

The defendant, whose excuse was that a friend had loaned him the scales, was fined \$25.

THEATRE TICKETS.

When a Chinese was charged with hawking theatre tickets without a licence, Sergt. Davitt explained that men of defendant's type made it their business to get to the theatre early, buy up all the good seats, and then sell them again for bigger money. They would probably purchase the tickets for 70 cents each and sell them again for \$1 each. Such men caused a lot of trouble to the outside public and also to the manager of the theatre.

A fine of \$5 was imposed.

SERIOUS ASSAULT CASE.

The case in which three Indian Naval Depot constables are charged with assaulting an Indian Sergt. Major of Naval Police was again before Mr. Wood.

Mr. Leo D'Almada, who appeared for the defence, said that he was instructed that the complainant's condition was not serious, and he therefore applied for the defendants to be allowed out on bail.

Mr. Wood remarked that the complainant's condition was serious, and under these circumstances he must refuse the application for bail.

The Indians were therefore further remanded in police custody.

PIRACY.

The coxswain of a cargo junk which travels between Taiping, Tungkun and Un Lung has reported to the police that about 2.30 p.m. on May 14th, while the junk was proceeding to Taiping, and when approaching Chinese territory, a sampan was noticed to be sailing towards the junk. The coxswain shouted out "What do you want?" and also told the sampan to sail in another direction. No notice was taken, and eventually the sampan came alongside the junk. At the same time five men armed with rifles boarded the junk, held everyone at bay, ransacked the vessel, kidnapped the master and a joki, and then returned to their sampan and sailed away in the direction of Sai Lau. They have not been seen since.

(Continued at foot of next column.)

HONGKONG AEROPLANE FUND.

FINAL LIST.

Members of Club Lusitano, per Mr. A. E. J. Alves	207.00
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H. H. Taylor	50.00
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A. Bell, A. M. T. F. E. Rosser, A. Weill, J. Carr, K. M. Cumming, "G. R. V. L." Anonymous, T. W. Ziaak, M. Glamazer, Sun Foo Hing, Lum Shiu Chung, Fan Sui Yook, Chan Cheuk Hing, A. Fok, Yan Shui Chee	\$5 each 80.00
A. Galt	3.00
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R. Ricou	\$100.00
T. Ramsay	50.00
Mr. and Mrs. F. de Silva	25.00
Anonymous	25.00
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Mrs. C. Fernandes, Mrs. Victoria de Mattos, J. Rego, J. Ormiston, "A Friend," J. M. Lopes, H. O. Best, W. G. Pringle, W. Manning, "B. S. H. Waller, J. R. E. H. S. N. L. H. Ralston	\$5 each 70.00
A. Gordon, E. J. Odette, O. Mesquita	\$2 each 6.00
M. Telles de Menezes and "V. S." \$1 each	2.00 480.00
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Sun Man Woo, Chee Wing & Co., Hing Kee, Sing Kee & Co., A. Wing & Co., Kwong Fook Launch Co., Kwong Sang Co., Cheong Wo & Co., Wo On & Co., Jack A. Tai & Co., Wing Shun Co., Wing Cheung Co., Sing On & Co., Fook Cheong, On Fat & Co., Hop Fat, S. S. "Chuen Chow," Leung Tai Mien	\$10 each 180.00
Wong Chu Fai, Yuen Pak, Wong Kam Cho, Wong Pik Fong, Kwok Shui Zing, Yuen Fat Man, Sun Pak Hang	\$5 each 35.00 300.00
Taikoo Dock, per Mr. W. J. Eldridge	—
J. Reid, K. E. Greig, D. McGregor, B. E. Fielder, S. W. Saton, R. H. Canins, D. Mackay, J. Simpson, W. J. Eldridge, A. Whitlaw, P. W. Ramsay, A. Smith, J. C. Ferguson	\$5 each 65.00
W. H. Brown, J. E. Green, J. Willis, R. Wallace, "A. F. X. McIntool, D. Avatin, R. L. Lyle, J. Scott, A. Middleton, N. MacArthur, W. W. Wetherpoon, R. W. Bristow, J. Weir, J. D. Rolley	\$3 each 42.00
A. W. Miller, A. Stalker, G. Groll, J. England, J. B. Speirs, F. Soutar, N. K. Duncan, P. Anderson, \$2 each	16.00
J. Johnson, A. Aitchison, J. A. Hunter, J. Stewart, S. P. Amery, \$1 each	5.00 128.00
	\$1,695.50
Amount previously acknowledged	\$11,987.39
Total	\$13,671.89

BIG JEWEL ROBBERY.

An Indian Jeweller named Mohid Deen, of 38 and 40, Queen's Road, Central, has reported to the police that some persons entered his premises by forcing an entrance through the roof and got away with jewels to the value of \$32,000. No arrests have been made. It appears that the shop was closed early, and a watchman was left outside, as usual. Yesterday morning it was discovered that the place had been broken into and ransacked. The robbers gained access to the building by way of some office overhead, these being vacant at the present time. A hole was cut through the floor, this being large enough for a man to be dropped down by means of a rope. The thieves were very discriminating, for only the very best stones and valuables were taken.

TUAN CHI-JUI'S MESSAGE TO THE NATION.

"PLAYING ALTERNATIVELY WITH CLOUD AND RAIN."

The telegram signed by General Tuan Chi-jui and despatched on July 3rd from Machang, the Headquarters of General Li Chang-tai commanding the northern troops there, is translated as follows:—

"To the Vice-President, Inspector-General Lu, Tsuchuns and Provincial Chiefs, Chambers of Commerce, and the press:—

"Heaven's curse must be on China that disturbances should occur so incessantly. Chang Hsun, harbouring wild ambitions invaded Peking with troops upon the pretence of mediation, culminating in the extraordinary action of overthrowing our national form on July 1st. Since national form is essential to the existence of a nation, any attempt to change it after fixing it with much difficulty will endanger the country to an extent beyond description. Moreover, it would be an absolute impossibility to try to overawe and subjugate millions of people with the pomp and fierceness of an autocrat at the present time when democratic principle is daily becoming more understood and appreciated by the masses. Thus upon the inauguration of the Republic, the Ching House, being clearheaded as to the tendency of the world, abdicated its power in all sincerity, and our citizens, appreciating such magnanimity granted the articles providing generous treatment for that House with a view to avoiding conflict in all political matters and preserving at all times the glory and honour of its title: the ancestral temple will enjoy sacrifices and the offspring will receive protection. From history, we find none of the twenty and more families that had ruled as emperors and kings having had such a good and happy end as the Ching Dynasty.

Now, Chang Hsun and others being carried away by their own individual and selfish aspirations and regardless of public opinion have hatched this rebellious plot doubtless with the desire of emulating the pernicious example, set by Wang Mang and Tung Cho (both of the Han Dynasty), in using the authority of an infantile emperor to subdue the world. They have even forged a memorial by Li Yuan-hung who was made to say nasty things about the Republic and to pray the Manchu Emperor to resume his Court in order to save the people. They have issued false Imperial Decrees. Such high-handedness has struck dumb both Chinese and foreigners. If they did this for the country's sake, how could any country under a despotic monarchy survive in the world of to-day? They will only cause outbreaks throughout the four seas of China.

The friendly Powers have recognized our Republic about five years now. Such playing alternatively with "cloud and rain" may be indulged in by our countrymen, but would our friendly Powers play with us in such a serious matter as the welfare of a country? Internal settlement will surely end in foreign intervention, if not checked. If they acted for the good of the Ching House, the Emperor, being still a child, entertains no design to rule over the world at all, while his guardians and tutors are always trembling lest they may fall from their high position. Happily, the fact that the step taken this time was effected by

coercion is known to the whole universe. From ancient times to the present there was never a dynasty that lasted unbroken. The Ching Dynasty, having already secured the best treatment of all, should not be placed in a dangerous position again and be overthrown once more, and possibly exterminated in the end.

"I, Chi-jui, had intended not to meddle in politics, since my dismissal. But considering that in 1911, I had followed you and done my part in the creation of the Republic, I cannot sit by and witness the downfall and split of our Republic without stirring a finger to its rescue. While on the other hand, I had also received favours from the Ching House, I cannot endure to see the former dynasty lend itself to the use of unscrupulous men to its own destruction. I shall uphold this sentiment up till my death. As you are all pillars of the country, holding posts of trust, you will doubtless swear to pursue one path, during this crisis, both for the sake of our country and the Ching House. I hope you will all rise in indignation and unite together in suppressing this great rebellion. Although I am weak in health, I am ready to follow you as your groom once again.

("Sgd.") TUAN CHI-JUI, July 3rd.

After the ceremony (of re-ascending the Throne) which was personally supervised by General Chang Hsun, Prince Chun, father of the Emperor, beaming with smiles and looking happy, distributed fifty coppers to each of General Chang Hsun's soldiers as a royal favour.

"THE SWANKER."

[BY A REGULAR.]

These duration-of-the-war men are not a bad lot, and they soon settle down into their new life quite naturally. Of course there are all sorts. A few are 'Varsity men, a few have respectable banking accounts, and a good many have never been better off in their lives.

I happen to be one of the old-timers. The general impression held of the pre-war soldier is that he enlisted either to dodge the law, or else because he was hungry. The superior person who enlists to-day is immensely surprised to find among remnants of the old army men who are quite respectable, as well educated as himself, and able to produce a sovereign if one is required.

We get on remarkably well with our new comrades as a rule, but what puts our back up is "Swank." I remember one fellow joining us who was a typical "swanker." He was a young, fairly smart, and, to all appearances, a good fellow. His promotion to Sergeant had been very rapid owing to the demand for N.C.O.s, exceeding the available supply.

When he first came to the Sergeants' Mess he used to keep very quiet. He accepted a drink when one was offered, but was never in a great hurry to return it. A few weeks later, however, he appeared to have suddenly come into a fortune. He invariably called for drinks all round; at unexpected hours suggested motor rides, for which he paid; and hinted that if any of us wanted temporarily obliging he would only be too pleased. He would ask for leave now and then to go to the bank to change a cheque—we never saw the cheque—and it was his especial delight to attach himself to one of us, in a corner of the mess, and talk about his pater, his allowance, and his rich brother-in-law. He even stated that one of our officers whom he knew previously in "civie" life had been in the habit of raising his hat when they met in the street. This was all rather tall, but, in these days, quite possible.

It went on for a few weeks, and then we heard one day that his batman was complaining because he hadn't been paid. The tradesmen started calling at the mess and asking for him, and rumours went round that he hadn't paid his mess bill. Then he avoided us. We heard no more of his allowance but a great deal of his debts.

His final humiliation came when a new recruit joined us who knew him in civil life. It appeared that his father was a grocer's assistant in a little village, and our "swanker" was a sort of extra man at the local railway-station, where he delivered parcels, etc., that the porters didn't consider worth their while to take round.

His accession to wealth was explained later by the Pay Sergeant. It appeared that previous to joining us he had been many weeks in hospital, where his pay had accumulated. When his accounts were received the Pay Sergeant paid him out his entire credit, which amounted to about £30, and as 'his amount was about thirty times in excess of any money he had ever handled before, he promptly lost his head.

We have forgiven him now, but the next man who talks about his allowance will be required to produce immediate proof or for ever hold his peace.—Contributed.

NATIONAL SERVICE AT £11 PER MAN.

\$104,000 SPENT TO FILL 9,092 POSITIONS.

Mr. Stephen Walsh, for the Ministry of Labour, gave in the House of Commons last month the following result of the working of the National Service scheme up to April 30th:—

Cost of advertising £ 78,000
Total cost of scheme 104,000
Persons enrolled 207,000
Persons placed 9,092

Of the 207,000 volunteers, Mr. Walsh explained that approximately 130,000 were munition workers, or otherwise not available for other employment than that in which they were engaged.

Mr. Anderson—Are we to understand that it has taken over £100,000 to fix up 9,000 men?

Mr. Walsh—You have to understand exactly what the answer states.

Sir O. Kinloch-Cooke asked if it was a fact that each man placed had cost in advertising over £20.

Mr. Walsh said he wished to put the hon. member arithmetically correct. The amount was about £8 10s.

A veteran in khaki on a tramcar was puffing contentedly at a battered briar root pipe. "That's an old warrior," remarked a fellow-passenger. "Aye, it's a warrior," replied the soldier holding out the pipe. "tak a look o' it." The bowl was neatly carved with the names of some of the most famous battles of the war. "We were baith there," added the soldier wearily, and lifting his kithab took his way off the car.

INTIMATIONS

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

SOLE AGENTS FOR SPALDING'S ATHLETIC GOODS.

JUST TO HAND
"SPALDING'S "GOLD MEDAL"
GOLF CLUBS.
LADIES' MODELS AND GENTS' MODELS.

INCLUDING

DRIVERS.

MASHIES.

BAFFIES.

MID IRONS.

BRASSIES.

DRIVING IRONS.

JIGGERS.

PUTTERS.

LOFTERS.

NIBLICS.

CLEEKES.

MASHIE NIBLICS.

No. EWB.

ACCESSORIES OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

18

ISHERWOOD CIGARETTES.

HAND-MADE IN CAIRO.

No. 3, Large ...

\$4.50 per 100

or 2.30 " 50

No. 4, Medium...

\$3.60 per 100

or 1.85 " 50

No. 5, Small ...

\$3.20 per 100

or 1.65 " 50

Ask your

tobacconist

for a tin

at once.



Known all over

the world as the

most popular

Egyptian

Cigarette

of to-day.

An absolutely

first quality

Cigarette.

Recommended

by all

connoisseurs.

Obtainable at:

HONGKONG CIGAR STORE

GRAND-EGYPTIAN TOBACCO STORE

ANGLO-EGYPTIAN TOBACCO STORE

KELLY & WALSH, LTD.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

A. S. WATSON & Co.

HONGKONG HOTEL KIOSK.

[487-1

Wm. Powell Ltd

TELEPHONE 346

JUST ARRIVED!

WHITE AND COLOURED
VOILE GOWNS.

12, DES VŒUX ROAD.

[89

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

G. 2. R.
IN THE SUPREME COURT OF
HONGKONG IN PRIZE.

TAKE NOTICE that Writs have been issued and served in ACTIONS which have been instituted in the Supreme Court of Hongkong in Prize by the Proper Officer of the Crown on behalf of the Crown against the Owners and parties interested in the VESSELS specified below and for the condemnation thereof. An appearance to the Writ in any one of these actions should be entered either personally or by Solicitor at the Registry of the Supreme Court in Prize Hongkong within Twenty-Eight Days from the date of this Notice.

Dated this 11th day of July, 1917.
H. O. A. NISBET,
Registrar in Prize,
Registry of the Prize Court,
Courts of Justice,
Hongkong. [834]

THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT AND AGENCY CO., LTD.

AN INTERIM DIVIDEND OF THREE AND A HALF DOLLARS per Share for the six months ending 30th June, 1917, will be Payable on THURSDAY, 26th July, on which date Dividend Warrants may be obtained on application at the Company's Office. The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED on WEDNESDAY, the 18th, to THURSDAY, the 26th July (both days inclusive), during which period no Transfer of Shares can be registered.

By Order of the Board of Directors,
A. SHELTON HOOPER,
Secretary.
Hongkong, 10th July, 1917. [828]

THE WEST POINT BUILDING COMPANY, LIMITED.

AN INTERIM DIVIDEND OF THREE DOLLARS per Share for the six months ending 30th June, 1917, will be Payable on THURSDAY, 26th July, on which date Dividend Warrants may be obtained on application at the Company's Office. The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED on WEDNESDAY, the 18th, to THURSDAY, the 26th July (both days inclusive), during which period no Transfer of Shares can be registered.

By Order of the Board of Directors,
A. SHELTON HOOPER,
Secretary.
Hongkong, 10th July, 1917. [829]

RUSSIAN 5% INTERNAL LIBERTY LOAN 1917.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the RUSSO-ASIATIC BANK, HONGKONG, IS READY TO RECEIVE FURTHER SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THE ABOVE LOAN UP TO THE 28th JULY, 1917.

G. TISDALL,
Manager,
Russo-Asiatic Bank. [824]

THE NATIONAL LOAN OF THE THIRD YEAR OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA (1914)

\$16,000,000 AND SUPPLEMENTARY ISSUE OF \$8,000,000

THE NATIONAL LOAN OF THE FOURTH YEAR OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA (1915) \$24,000,000.

SUBS. BIBERS to the above two LOANS are hereby notified that in pursuance of arrangements recently made by the Chinese Government with me for the future service of these Loans, interest payments are and will be adequately secured by cash funds in my hands and at my sole disposal.

F. A. AGLEN,
Inspector General of Customs,
Inspectorate General of Customs,
Peking, 6th June, 1917. [830]

THE CHINESE ENGINEERING AND MINING COMPANY, LIMITED.

6% FIRST MORTGAGE DEBENTURES (KAILAN BONDS).

PAYMENT OF THE HALF-YEARLY INTEREST due on 1st July, 1917, will be made on presentation of Coupon No. 10 at any of the undermentioned Banks, viz.:

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION, Ltd.,
CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA, AUSTRALIA AND CHINA, Ltd.,
RUSSO-ASIATIC BANK, Ltd.,
BANQUE DE L'INDO-CHINE, Ltd.,
YOKOHAMA SPECIE BANK, Ltd.,
BANQUE BELGE POUR L'EXTRANGER.

The Interest, less Income Tax at 5% in the 2, will be paid as follows:

On \$20 Bonds. 2 s. d.
Per Coupon (Gross) 12 0
Less Tax at 5% in the 2 2 0

Net amount payable 9 8 0

On \$100 Bonds. 2 s. d.
Per Coupon (Gross) 3 0 0
Less Tax at 5% in the 2 15 0

Net amount payable 28 5 0

On \$200 Bonds. 2 s. d.
Per Coupon (Gross) 15 0 0
Less Tax at 5% in the 2 3 15 0

Net amount payable 211 15 0

Payment will be made in Tels at the Demand. Buying rate of exchange of the day the Coupon is presented.

By Order,
THE KAILAN MINING ADMINISTRATION,
W. S. NATHAN,
General Manager. [807]

AUCTIONS

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned has received instructions to sell by Public Auction, TO-DAY (THURSDAY), the 12th July, 1917, commencing at 11 A.M., at his Sales Rooms, Duddell Street, 10 Bales UNGLAZED WHITE PAPER.

Terms:—Cash on delivery.
GEO. P. LAMMERT,
Auctioneer. [831]

G. 2. R.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

PARTICULARS AND CONDITIONS of the letting by Public Auction Sale, to be held on MONDAY, the 16th day of July, 1917, at 3 P.M., at the Office of the Public Works Department, by Order of His Excellency the Governor, of One Lot of CROWN LAND above Bowen Road, in the Colony of Hongkong, for a term of 75 years, with the option of renewal at a CROWN RENT to be fixed by the Surveyor of His Majesty the King, for one further term of 75 years.

PARTICULARS OF THE LOT.

No. of Lot.	Locality.	Boundary Measurements (Approximate).	Containing in Acres, Roods, and Perches.	Estimated Value.
1	Lot 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100.	As per plan.	22,450	224,000 (about)

[819]

THE CLUB HOTEL, LIMITED

IN LIQUIDATION.

JNO. W. HALL
has received instructions from
G. O. HEATH, Esq.,
Liquidator,
to sell by

PUBLIC AUCTION

at the Sale Rooms, No. 61, Yokohama,
On TUESDAY, the 31st JULY,
at 2 P.M.

ALL THE VALUABLE

SETTLEMENT PROPERTY

known as

THE CLUB HOTEL

LOTS No. 5 A AND B, BUND

covering as per Title Deeds 1527 Tenbs of Land with three frontages, to Bund approximately 215 feet, Biwa-cho 250 feet and Water Street 260 feet, together with all the BUILDINGS thereon.

The PURCHASER of the PROPERTY to have the option of taking over all the HOTEL FURNITURE as it stands at valuation.

For Cards to view and further particulars apply to—

THE AUCTIONEER,
No. 61, Yokohama. [818]

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned has received instructions from the Liquidators of Messrs. JAMES & Co. in pursuance of an order of the Hongkong Government to sell by public auction at 12 o'clock (Noon) on TUESDAY, the 31st day of July, 1917, at his Sales Rooms, Duddell Street, THE VALUABLE LEASEHOLD PROPERTY situated at the Peak, Hongkong, and being BURL BUILDING LOT No. 19.

In One Lot.

The Property consists of:—
The piece or parcel of ground and premises known as "Lynholt," 104, The Peak, situate near Mount Gough, in the Colony of Hongkong, with an area of 124,000 square feet and registered in the Land Office as Rural Building Lot No. 19.

The Lot is held for the unexpired residue of a term of 75 years created therein by an indenture of Crown Lease dated the 23rd day of April, 1896.

The Annual Crown Rent is \$24.00. For further particulars and conditions of sale apply to—

Messrs. WILKINSON & GRIST,
Solicitors for the Liquidators,
or to the Undersigned,
GEO. P. LAMMERT,
Auctioneer. [807]

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

FROM CALCUTTA.

THE Steamship

"COCONADA,"
having arrived from the above Port, Consignees of Cargo by her are notified that all Goods are being landed at their risk into the hazardous and/or extra hazardous Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., whence and/or from the wharves delivery may be obtained.

All broken, chafed and damaged packages are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on SATURDAY, 14th inst., at 10 A.M.

All Claims must be presented within a month of the Steamer's arrival here, after which they cannot be recognized.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns and all Goods remaining undelivered after 16th inst. will be subject to rent.

No Fire Insurance whatever will be effected. Consignees are requested to send in their Bills of Lading for countersignature immediately.

PACIFIC MAIL S.S. CO.,
R. G. MORTON,
General Agent.
Hongkong, 10th July, 1917. [824]

HOUSES TO LET

TO LET.

DEVONIA, No. 9, Peak Road, SIX-ROOMED BUNGALOW, with Garden and Tennis Court.
HOUSES in Shamsham, Canton, Nos. 31 and 63.
Apply to—
DAVID SASSOON & Co., Ltd. [806]

TO LET.

A FIVE-ROOMED HOUSE, with Tennis Court, in Minden Villas, Kowloon.

A FLAT in Nathan Road, Kowloon.

Apply to—
HUMPHREYS ESTATE & FINANCE Co., Ltd. [838]

TO LET.

OFFICES at 2, Connaught Road Central.

OFFICES in King's and York Buildings.

HOUSES to Let, Wengachong Road.

HOUSES in Clifton Gardens, Conduit Road.

HOUSES in Broadwood and Moreton Terraces.

HOUSES on Shamsham, Canton.
Apply to—
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT AND AGENCY CO., LTD. [83]

WANTED.

A HOUSE or WHOLE FLOOR with about 10 Rooms in a central location.

Please apply to—
Box No. 1,
Care of "Daily Press" Office. 767

NOTICE.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Partnership of LEE NGAN SAN in our Firm terminated on the 29th August, 1916.
WALTER FORD & Co. [823]

THE WATERHOUSE STEAMSHIP LINE.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

FROM SEATTLE AND JAPAN PORTS.

THE Steamship

"KEISHIN MARU"
having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees of Cargo by her are hereby notified that all Goods are being landed at their risk into the hazardous and/or extra hazardous Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited, whence and/or from the wharves delivery may be obtained.

Goods not cleared by the 12th July, at 5 P.M., will be subject to rent.

All broken, chafed and damaged packages are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on SATURDAY, 14th inst., at 10 A.M.

All Claims must be presented within a month of the Steamer's arrival here, after which they cannot be recognized.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns and all Goods remaining undelivered after 16th inst. will be subject to rent.

No Fire Insurance whatever will be effected. Consignees are requested to send in their Bills of Lading for countersignature immediately.

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., Ltd.
Agents.
Hongkong, 5th July, 1917. [814]

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

FROM KOBE.

THE Steamship

"TILIWONG,"
having arrived from the above Port, Consignees of Cargo by her are notified that all Goods are being landed at their risk into the hazardous and/or extra hazardous Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., whence and/or from the wharves delivery may be obtained.

Goods not cleared by 16th July will be subject to rent.

All broken, chafed and damaged packages are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on the 14th July, at 10 A.M.

Claims against the Steamer must be presented in writing within 10 days after arrival of Steamer, otherwise they will not be recognized.

No Fire Insurance will be effected by the Undersigned in any case whatever.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., Ltd.
Agents.
Hongkong, 9th July, 1917. [826]

PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP CO.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

S.S. "COLOMBIA,"
FROM SAN FRANCISCO, HONOLULU, JAPAN PORTS, SHANGHAI AND MANILA.

THE above-mentioned vessel having arrived from the above ports, Consignees of Cargo are hereby notified that their Cargo is being landed at their risk into the hazardous and/or extra hazardous Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., whence and/or from the wharves delivery may be obtained.

All broken, chafed and damaged goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on SATURDAY, 14th inst., at 10 A.M.

All Claims must be presented within a month of the Steamer's arrival here, after which they cannot be recognized.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns and all Goods remaining undelivered after 16th inst. will be subject to rent.

No Fire Insurance whatever will be effected. Consignees are requested to send in their Bills of Lading for countersignature immediately.

PACIFIC MAIL S.S. CO.,
R. G. MORTON,
General Agent.
Hongkong, 9th July, 1917. [828]

INTIMATION

BY APPOINTMENT.

WATSON'S
DRY
GINGER-
ALE.

FRAGRANT.

AROMATIC.

DRY.

Its "Dryness" is a feature which has helped to give this drink the popularity it so well deserves.

PINTS \$1.20 PER DOZ.

SPLITS 70 CTS. "

A. S. WATSON &
CO., LTD.,
STERILIZED WATER MANUFACTURERS.

TELEPHONE 436

MARRIAGE.

LANG-NILSSON.—On May 21st, 1917, at St. Goran's Church, Stockholm, by the Rev. Wilhelm Larsson, assisted by the Rev. J. Howard Swinstead, LEONARD VICTOR LANG, of Vladivostok (formerly of Hongkong), to GERDA ELIZABETH, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. O. NILSSON, of Stockholm. [832]

DEATH.

ENDICOTT.—At the General Hospital, Shanghai, on July 6th, ROBERT ROSSIE, ENDICOTT, aged 62 years.

HONGKONG OFFICE: 104, DES VOUX ROAD, C. LONDON OFFICE: 181, FLEET STREET, E.C.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, 12TH JULY, 1917.

GERMANY'S INFLUENCE.

One of the curious results of the war is the influence which Germany has exercised, through it, on all the nations with which she is in conflict, and even on those nations which are struggling to preserve their neutrality. The influence of Germany at peace was never very marked, although, of course, it existed. In research the patient Germans showed themselves indefatigable, but in the handling of the material which they collected they never displayed much brilliancy. It was left to other nationals to draw deductions and show the true meaning of the facts. When the Germans did attempt to form conclusions from their investigations they went hopelessly astray, as, for instance, MAX MULLER with his linguistic roots and WEISMANN with his germ-plasm theory of life, which has been revised many times and still fails to fit the facts. In practical application the Germans did better, and their influence on medicine seems to be due to this, although here again there are indications of their inability to draw sound inferences. Thus, although it was the fashion to regard Germany as the abode of wisdom, though students from all parts of the world flocked to her universities, studying her philosophers and her scientists, influence she exercised upon foreign opinion was only to be discovered by investigation. Even in the one direction where she has undoubtedly shown herself supreme—that of music—it would appear

to be against her will. Just as the most European of her poets, HEINE, had to cast the dust of Germany off his feet, so, too, the musicians who have made her name famous often won their laurels in other lands. It has been left for Germany at war to spread a very different, and very inferior, kind of *kultur*—a semi-political, semi-economic kind of *kultur*, which cannot but have a deteriorating effect on other countries if accepted. The influence exercised on military affairs and methods of warfare need hardly be pointed out. In the latter it is responsible for the use of weapons which, before the Germans introduced them, were supposed to be forbidden in modern warfare, such as poisonous gases, fire projectors, etc. Air-raids on nominally, or allegedly, fortified places, which, owing to the inability of the airman definitely to mark his objective, have resulted in the slaying of a large number of non-combatants, have led to a clamour for "reprisals," which are likely to result in further savagery. At sea the Germans have had a monopoly of "frightfulness" in the use of the submarine for purposes to which, before this war, no one ever thought of its being put. In general military affairs the influence of Germany is no less obvious. She has introduced conscription into England and now threatens to introduce it into the British Dominions and even into the United States. The point is not whether conscription is a good or a bad thing—for defensive purposes it might be welcomed; the point is that it has been forced upon countries which have shown the strongest opposition to the militarism of Europe—the militarism which has now caught them in its meshes. Optimists may claim that this is but a passing phase, caused by the necessities of the moment. We hope it may be so, but the enactment and the repeal of a measure cannot be put on equal terms so far as the forces required in each case are concerned. The political influence of Germany is seen in the changes that have been introduced into the administration of Great Britain. One of the advantages ascribed to an unwritten constitution is its elasticity. This claim is, no doubt, sound, but it cannot be denied that elasticity permits of the constitution being stretched in a wrong direction as well as a right direction. There is no doubt that the effect of the war has been to introduce bureaucratic methods of administration in Britain; that a leaf has been taken out of the enemy's book and the power of the bureaucracy increased at the expense of that body which is supposed to represent the will of the nation. It is true that the waning power of Parliament and increasing power of the Government has been observable for many years. HERBERT SPENCER, towards the end of the last century, called attention to the successive steps introduced to check free discussion by the people's representatives. But while the tendency in this direction is an old one, the war undoubtedly hastened its development. German efficiency is supposed to lie in her State control of every form of national activity, and it is assumed, therefore, that British efficiency can be promoted by taking the same course. In economic affairs this influence is very pronounced. We find, for example, the British Government engaged in considering State measures for the advancement of British trade in more or less direct imitation of Germany. In spite of the fact that British merchants, unaided, have increased the wealth of the country so enormously that it is able to bear a war burden of unprecedented magnitude, it is proposed that the Government, through its departments, should undertake to direct the course of trade, inaugurate special financial mediums, and interfere generally in matters of which it has little knowledge and no experience. One of the loudest complaints of the Germans was the constant interference of their Government in all their activities. Finally, Germany's plans for a Central European Economic Alliance have led to the consideration of counter measures by the *Entente* Powers, and the real significance of her policy of "peaceful penetration" in other countries that has been revealed by the war has given a great impetus to the movement in favour of a self-supporting Empire. While, therefore, it may be said that out of evil good may sometimes come, yet if Great Britain wins the war only at the expense of being a convert to German ideas, the value of the victory will be seriously impaired.

Gar. E. A. Yates, of the Shanghai Volunteer Artillery, left a few days ago on war service. The staff of Lane, Crawford's presented him with a memento at a farewell dinner. All the N.C.O.'s and men on the roll of No. 4 subsection of the Artillery at the beginning of this year have left to take up active service during the past few months (says the N.C. Daily News).

A Whist Drive was held by the Royal Naval Quadrille Club in the Naval Canteen on Tuesday evening. The ladies' prizes were won by:—1st, Mrs. Blackman; 2nd, Mrs. Bolton; 3rd, Mrs. Fooks. The successful men players were:—1st, C.S.M. Jenner, R.E.; 2nd, Mr. Sears; 3rd, C.Q.M.S. Reakes, R.E. The last-named player has had quite a remarkable run of luck. He has only been in the Colony a short time, but his ability or his "Joss" has caused his name to appear among the list of prize-winners with almost monotonous regularity. Chief Writer Smith, R.N., carried out the duties of M.O.

A correspondent of the N.C. Daily News, who sent Home Mr. Moss's book "Britons v. Germans in China," has received the following comment on it from the head of a big Manchester piece goods firm: "The book with reference to the liquidation of German firms in Hongkong is extremely interesting. I must admit that the one experience I had in the past of working with a German firm confirms in many ways what the writer says. They were crammed full of theory and useless when it came to practical trading. They wrote ten-page letters without ever placing an order that did not show a ten per cent. loss to our joint account, and fortunately for us we closed the account finally some years before the war, with a total loss of several thousand pounds and enough light literature to burn down the warehouse."

CORRESPONDENCE.

BAND AT NORTH POINT.

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS,"]

SIR,—I understand the Hongkong Police Reserve Band was approached by a certain official to play a few pieces at North Point Beach during the summer commencing from July, and that the Band consented. As the Band has not been seen there yet, although we are nearing the middle of the month, I should be glad to know when will be the first Band afternoon or evening, as the case may be.

Yours faithfully,
BATHER.

Hongkong, 10th July, 1917.

DEATH OF MR. R. R. ENDICOTT.

The death of Mr. R. R. Endicott, the well known stockbroker, of Shanghai, occurred at the General Hospital, Shanghai, on July 6th.

Mr. Endicott was an American citizen born in 1855, and early in life he served on board a sailing ship. Later, he came out to enter the shipping office of Douglas Lapraik & Co. at Hongkong, and afterwards represented the firm at Keelung, Formosa. He left Douglas Lapraik in 1887 and went to Shanghai. After a few years' service with Messrs. David Sassoon & Co. he became a shareholder and was one of the original members of the Shanghai Stock Exchange.

Mr. Endicott married in 1896 the widow of the late Mr. Rogerson, of the Shanghai Gas Co., and their daughter married Mr. Williams of the U. S. Consular Service. Mr. Endicott's mother, Mrs. MacGregor (of MacGregor & Gow) is still living at Brighton. To her and to Mrs. Endicott deep sympathy is expressed.

THE SINKING OF THE C.M.S. "ANPING."

FURTHER DETAILS.

The N.C. Daily News of July 6th gives further details of the sinking of the C.M.S. *Anping*, which, as announced in our cable columns, struck Eddy Island Rock, near Weihaiwei, on 1:40 a.m. on the 3rd instant during a dense fog. All lives, and the majority of the passengers' luggage, were saved, and passengers were landed at Weihaiwei about 12 miles distant by the C.N.S. *Tamara*, which happened to be in the vicinity at the time of the accident. Latest reports are to the effect that the vessel is entirely submerged in eight fathoms of water, with her bow against the cliff and the water reaching to the yellow band of the funnel. The Chinese passengers, bound for Chefoo and Tientsin, have been sent on to their destinations by the I.C.S. *Koonshing* and C.N.S. *Tungshoo*. Dock experts and divers left Shanghai on July 4th by the C.M.S. *Tungshoo* for the scene of the wreck and until their report is received it is not known what steps will be taken towards salvaging the vessel.

The *Anping*, which was commanded by Capt. R. G. Paramore, is a vessel of 1,857 gross and 1,150 net tonnage, and was built at Glasgow by C. Connell & Co. in 1890. Her dimensions are: length, 285 ft.; breadth 40 ft.; and depth, 21 ft.

THE WAR.

BRITAIN'S AIR DEFENCE.

STATEMENT BY THE PREMIER.

PLIGHT OF AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.

BETHMANN-HOLLWEG'S FALL IMMINENT.

FRENCH RAID GERMAN TOWNS.

Franco-Belgian Front.

LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

DARING FRENCH AIR RAIDS.

AN EXCITING STORY.

London, July 10th.

Reuter's correspondent at the French Headquarters sends the story of the bombardment of a Krupp factory in the town of Essen by Sergeant Aviator Gallois on Friday. Gallois' machine was one of 84 which started simultaneously for various objectives behind the enemy front. All carried out their mission and returned to the starting point, except two machines, within 96 hours. Gallois says: "We started at 9.20 in the evening. Four of us made for Essen. The night was dark and I soon lost sight of the others. The course lay over Metz and Theouville, down to Neselle and then to Coblenz. French batteries fired at me when traversing the line. There were searchlights playing at Metz but I passed undetected. I continued steering by compass to Treves, where I heard my comrades bombing the town and knew I was keeping my direction."

I threw my cargo of bombs, counting ten between each throw. Then I made for home, safely travelling the same route. Frequently I was fired at."

The 84 machines participating in the operations distributed nearly seven tons of high explosive. Eleven dropped two and half tons on Treves. The correspondent emphasises the unquestionable superiority of the French air-service over the enemy, reducing the enemy activities to occasional hurried raids. During the Aisne battle 1,098 air fights occurred over the German lines, compared with 395 over ours.

BRITISH ADVANCE.

London, July 10th.

Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports: We advanced our line slightly last night eastward of Oosttaverna. We also successfully raided southward of the Ypres Comines canal.

AIR-RAID ON ESSEN.

GERMANY VERY SECRETIVE.

AMSTERDAM, July 10th.

According to reports which are trickling through the German censorship regarding the air-raid on Essen, the first bombs fell at ten in the morning near Almenrath, in the vicinity of Cologne, wrecking houses. The inhabitants rushed for shelter. Shortly after a storm of fire broke out from the anti-aircraft guns at Duesseldorf, Oberhausen, Essen, Muelheim and elsewhere, while searchlights searched the sky in all directions.

The greatest secrecy was observed regarding the extent of the damage, but travellers speak of the perturbation of the local population.

Russian Front.

EARLIER CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

GENERAL ACTIVITY.

WOMEN OFF TO THE FRONT.

Petrograd, July 8th.

A battalion of the Redal garrison, composed of 400 men and seven women, were warmly welcomed en route to the front.

A telegram from Minak describes the beginning of military activity on several parts of the front, including a prolonged and intense artillery duel in the Krevno-Smoron region.

Naval Activities.

LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

GOOD WORK BY TRAWLER.

TWO ENEMY SEAPLANES DESTROYED.

London, July 10th.

The Admiralty reports: The Commodore at Lowestoft reports that on Monday evening the armed trawler *Iceland* destroyed two enemy seaplanes and brought in four prisoners to port.

AUSTRALIAN STEAMER BEACHED.

EXPLOSIONS IN THE HOLD.

MELBOURNE, July 10th.

The 9,000 ton steamer *Cumberland*, bound from Sydney to England, has been seriously damaged by two explosions in the hold, which rented the hull. The vessel was beached at Gobe Island.

FRENCH LINER SUNK.

Paris, July 10th.

The French liner *Caledonian* was sunk in the eastern Mediterranean on June 30th either by a mine or a torpedo. There were 411 aboard, of whom 380 were saved.

PLUCKY FIGHT.

Paris, July 10th.

The French steamer *Diane* pluckily fought a submarine of June 5th until the latter was sunk, after firing 100 shots.

The Captain has been decorated with the War Cross.

General.

LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

"HANGING IN THE BALANCE."

FATE OF BETHMANN HOLLWEG.

London, July 10th.

The fate of Dr. von Bethmann Hollweg, the German Chancellor, is still hanging in the balance. Numerous political conferences are being held in Berlin. Dr. Bethmann Hollweg is making a last effort to rally a narrow majority of National-Liberals and Conservatives with a body of Clericals. The latest report is that General Hindenburg will succeed Bethmann Hollweg.

PLIGHT OF AUSTRIA.

FAST BECOMING DESPERATE.

Zurich, July 10th.

In a debate in the Reichsrath the deputies from all parts of Austria-Hungary declared that the situation of the mass of the population was fast becoming desperate. Galicia, the granary of Austria, was completely bare.

A German Socialist declared that it was impossible to tell how long the workers would bear the privations. The wrath of the lower classes could not be kept down with bayonets.

AMERICA'S ARMY.

WASHINGTON, July 10th.

President Wilson has issued a proclamation to the effect that he is drafting the entire National Guard into the army on August 5th.

EARLIER CABLES.

GREECE'S FINANCES.

PROMISE OF SUPPORT.

Athens, July 9th.

Before leaving for Salonika, M. Jonnart announced that he would devote his efforts in Paris and London to strengthening Greece's finances. He referred in a flattering manner to the uniform modernness of M. Venizelos' attitude.

LATEST CABLES.

BRITAIN'S AIR DEFENCE.

REPORT OF SECRET SESSION.

LONDON, July 10th.

The report of the Secret Session of Parliament in connection with Britain's aerial defence says:

Mr. Lloyd George pointed out that our naval aeroplanes, during the last four or five months, dropped 70 tons of explosives on German aerodromes in northern Belgium, dropping six tons on the night preceding the raid, whereas the Germans only dropped two tons on England. The Government's first consideration was to see that the army in France was sufficiently supplied with aeroplanes, without which advance was impossible. The 28 civilian fatalities were regrettable, but unless there was a sufficiency of aeroplanes at the front the army's losses might easily be 28,000. The Germans realised as much as we did the importance of aeroplane work to secure the protection of soldiers' lives.

Nothing would encourage the Germans more than to know that by bombing English towns we were forced to withdraw fighting squadrons from France. Nothing would be more disastrous to the conduct of military operations than to encourage the Germans to believe that the raids excite a clamour in England resulting in the Government being unable to resist the demand for the withdrawal of aeroplanes from the front. If they were unable to provide aeroplanes for the front as well as for defence against raids, the army must come first. It was vitally important that Germany should know this. He saw the people in the district a few hours after the raid, and he had never seen people face disaster better. There was cheerfulness and constancy, and no signs of panic.

He was convinced that if the country realised that it was necessary to establish air-supremacy in order to win victory at the front it would be prepared to take risks. The Germans realised the importance of air-supremacy. We had made prodigious efforts during the past twelve months. We had enormously increased our capacity for manufacturing machines in the last half-year, increasing the number of employees in aeroplane works by 23,000. We had also improved the methods of organisation and the type of machines. The Government's information showed that the German capacity for production was inadequate for competing with ours. Hitherto our increase in production was only gradual. Now it was going up by leaps and bounds. April's strike lost us between 150 and 200 machines.

The Government hoped, as soon as possible, to meet not only the army requirements, but to provide sufficient aeroplanes to make raids impossible. He believed that if the situation were explained to the people who were suffering, they would be capable of rising to the great appeal cheerfully, and accept risks.

Mr. Bonar Law, replying to questions, said the opinion of experts was that our types of machines were as good as the Germans. He profoundly disagreed with the view expressed that the Prime Minister's speech might have been made in public, as the most vital passages were essentially of a secret character. Mr. Bonar Law pointed out that the French front was nearer important German cities than ours, therefore it was natural that the French should play a larger part in offensive operations against them, which they had done with remarkable success and immunity during the last few days. While not regarding the raids on London as unimportant, the balance of military advantage must be considered. People who were demanding an instant production of vast numbers of aeroplanes were apt to forget the inherent limits to the extent of the rate of such increase, and the imperative demands of other services. Mr. Joynton Hicks and Sir Henry Dalziel criticised the measures taken to cope with the raid.

Mr. Norton Griffiths related his experiences at the front, confirming the British aerial supremacy there.

Mr. Claude Lowther asked for more cohesion between the air and land defences.

"SECRECY DISFAVoured."

Another message says that the reports of the Secret Session were too late for detailed comments by the morning papers, but the secrecy evidently meets with little favour.

EARLIER CABLES.

COTTON WORKERS AND THEIR WAGES.

LONDON, July 9th.

The Card-Room Workers Amalgamation, representing half a million operatives, mostly women, have applied for a 25 per cent. advance in wages. The Spinners' Federation will consider the demand on the 13th. The card-room workers' wages have been advanced 20 per cent. since the war.

"COTTON ABROAD."

LONDON, July 9th.

The Cotton Control Board states that the expression "cotton abroad" applies to cotton not shipped prior to June 23rd. Unsold cotton shipped, or in transit by sea, prior to June 29th must be considered stock in England and dealt with according to the regulations issued on July 6th relating to "spot" cotton.

FRENCH COTTON DEALING.

PARIS, July 9th.

The Decree of June 22nd, temporarily closing the Havre Cotton Exchange, has been repealed, but the transactions have been restricted by rules fixing the prices.

MESOPOTAMIA DEBATE.

LONDON, July 7th.

In the House of Commons, replying to Col. Lynch, Mr. Bonar Law said that if the House so desired, as he thought was probable, he would give two days to the Mesopotamia debate, which would occur on the motion for adjournment.

ALLIED AND NEUTRAL SHIPPING.

FIRM CONTROL TO BE MAINTAINED.

WASHINGTON, July 9th.

The Government has announced that an arrangement is under negotiation designed to give America and Britain a firm grasp of all allied and neutral shipping by the strictest control of coal and fuel supplies.

It is revealed that Sweden has been exporting to Germany enormous quantities of material, including copper, zinc, manganese, sulphur, and cotton, substitutes for high explosives, for the manufacture of munitions. Similarly, iron ore shipments have been supplemented by imports from the United States.

Sweden, moreover, has used her railways against the Allies, and has held up a large amount of shipping at her ports. Consequently, it has become imperative to force Sweden's tonnage on the world's trade routes, which can be done by the control of oil and fuel.

SILVER.

LONDON, July 9th.

Silver is quoted at 39 15-16. The supplies are short. There is a general demand, and the market is steady.

GENERAL BRUSILOFF SPEAKS OUT.

A great impression has been produced in Odessa by a speech in which General Brusiloff pointed out certain serious shortcomings in the Army and deplored the agitation for the conclusion of a premature peace, the relaxation of discipline, the number of deserters, and the tendency to fraternize with the enemy that has manifested itself since Easter. He stated that the enemy tempted the troops by offers of vodka, and endeavoured to deceive them by proclamations. He mentioned an instance in which the Russian artillery had prepared to fire on Germans advancing with vodka and white flag. He also dwelt on the number of deserters, who exercised a baneful influence in the rear, along the railways, and in the villages. He declared that lack of discipline must entail the ruin of Russia.

CHINESE TELEGRAMS.

[BY COURTESY OF THE "CHUNG NGOI SAN PO."]

FIGHTING IMMINENT.

SHANGHAI, July 11th.

Chang Hsun's troops will not surrender and the Republican troops will therefore attack them.

Tan Chi-sui opposes the restoration of the old Parliament.

CHANG HSEN'S SECRETARY

KILLED.

Wang Sheng-shi, Chang Hsun's secretary, was killed at Peking.

Feng Lin-kai, Li Chin-chun and Chang Chin-fang, escaped to Tientsin, but they have now been caught by Republican troops.

THE WAR AND BIBLE PROPHECY.

[BY THORPE LEE.]

I heard of it first from the wife of a private schoolmaster. When she spoke of "the encouragements we might receive from prophecy" I looked rather blankly at her, and she then went on to explain that the operations in Palestine were clearly a fulfilment of the prediction that in the last days the Jews should go back to their early home.

I ventured the suggestion that there was nothing to prevent their going back at any time, but that they refused altogether to entertain the idea. She shook her head sagely and said, "Ah, well, we shall see."

After this two or three references in print to the Messianic meaning of the war caught my notice. Then I heard two people in a train talking on the subject. Still I should have paid little attention to what I had read and heard if I had not found that one of our most trusted and most competent admirals, holding a high command, is firmly convinced that the events we are living through must develop in accord with the prophecies contained in the Book of Daniel and in the "Revelation" of St. John the Divine. This is how the admiral explained it to me. There were two preliminaries to be completed before the end could be looked for. One was the return of the Jews to Palestine; "all the Jews, mind you, including the Ten Lost Tribes, who have got to be found." The other event is the reconstitution of the Roman Empire. "Now, if you consider carefully," he said, "you will find that all the countries which did form the Roman Empire are coming together. Germany never did."

"Russia never did," I interrupted. "No," he admitted, "that is true. But let me go on. France, England, Italy, Roumania, Spain on the verge of joining in, the northern parts of Africa, which were Roman, in the hands of the French and of ourselves. It is significant, isn't it?"

I had not the heart to drag in Russia again. "This cannot be Armageddon," the admiral went on. "I am clear about that. This must be the period of wars and rumours of wars which was to come before the Last Days. Before Armageddon there must be the 'Tribulation' of the Children of Israel which will follow their return to Palestine."

I was listening with amazed attention, pinching myself furtively to make sure that I was awake. "I see you have given some thought to these matters," he continued. "Many people would regard all that I am saying as foolishness. But there are so many pieces that all fit in together in a wonderful way."

I used to have an idea that all this kind of thing was confined to a few cranks of the type of the Rev. Mr. Baxter, who used to warn the world in a weekly newspaper that it—*I mean the world*, not the newspaper—was about to come to an end. But I have had my eyes opened. There is clearly a large body of opinion in favour of interpreting the war as a fulfilment of Biblical prophecy. Even men of influence and ability share this view. I conclude, as the Arab physician in Browning's great poem concluded his letter on the death and revival of Lazarus, with the comment, "It is strange."

RUSSIAN GENERAL'S BLUNT REPLY TO GERMAN PEACE OVERTURES.

The *Russkaya Volya* learns from the northern front that two German officers with a white flag and a bugler recently approached the Russian lines in the Dvinsk region and asked to be conducted to the General in Command for the purpose of opening *pourparlers*.

General Dragomiroff authorized them to be taken in a motor to Dvinsk with their eyes bandaged. In reply to General Dragomiroff the Germans made vague statements as to paying the way for more concrete negotiations with the Russian Government. They suggested that the Russian and German armies should fix a neutral zone, such as the Alexandrovsk road, for the purpose of peace negotiations. General Dragomiroff bluntly rejected the proposal, adding that it involved treachery towards the Allies. As the Germans stated that they had no orders to proceed to Petrograd General Dragomiroff sent them back to their own lines.

THEY'RE ALL DOING IT.

LITTLE THINGS THAT HAPPEN AT THE FRONT.

[BY CAPT. ALAN H. BURGOYNE, M.P.]

I had much enjoyed my lunch, and was seeking repose. Our mess is accounted second to none, thanks to the acquisition as cook of a master chef who had also been proved, to the satisfaction of a stipendiary magistrate, an adept in commandeering. An army fights on its stomach; when I started to wakefulness, two rats were fighting on mine. Not that this roused me—we of our company are made of far sterner stuff. It was the voice of my most joyous subaltern, to wit, Little Herbert.

"I started 14 Platoon on that muddy boggy behind Gurly Trench, sir, and they go, going well. Now Corporal James reports the pump has sunk—will you come and have a look?"

"The power of the eye is proverbial, but it requires more than a look from mine to raise a pump from the mud, oh, Herbert," I replied engagingly.

"With which we proceeded. It was a lovely day in spring, and a lark (disregarding the official warnings) had exposed itself boldly far above the parapet. Forty yards away we heard two Huns singing a duet from 'Zig-Zag' in perfect English. Barring this, it was a most pleasant war."

We soon reached the fatigues party. The trench here was, thanks to the subsidence of both sides, eight feet wide, and about ten men, led by a blasphemous sergeant, were apparently competing for pride of place as deep divers in the mud.

"Do you believe in premonition? I do—sometimes. I heard the whistle of the first shell, and instinctively knew it was meant for us. Next only to manly courage, the striking characteristic of 14 Platoon, in this case, I follow not a little their company commander, Bang! This expresses a very rude and loud noise representing the bursting of a whizz-bang or pip-squeak. The four men carrying the rescued pump dropped it instantly."

"Ow! Rite on my foot, you parrot-faced cheese-mite!" only it wasn't that.

Bang!—some more noise.

"Men," I said, "get back to the front line—you mustn't take risks; they're on to us." Bang! I saw a private Mugg's cap go sailing into the air.

"There," he cried, looking after it, "that's the third blooming bonnet I've lost this week."

"I hope they takes yer blinking head next time, Ugly!" said a pal, "will be cheaper for the country."

Bang, snap!

"Oh, 'ell—shrapnel, is it?" and we all ducked, mechanically but quite uselessly. Then the C.S.M. remembered a light shelter where reserve bombs rested in their thousands.

Bang! went another shell, much louder this time.

"Tuning up with the heavies," murmured Little Herbert. "They must have learned you're here, sir, and are frightened we might break through." I think my young man was pulling my leg, but he didn't show it.

"A high-teen-hinch," said the C.S.M., enunciating with curious emphasis. It might have been a 5.9in., but it wasn't bigger.

"Crump!" and our whole shelter shook.

"I see right," muttered Little Herbert. "It's you they want, sir. I hate dying so young—and fresh salmon for dinner, too!"

"Herbert," I said, both ears pricked up for the advent of the next hostile dose, "if I am spared I will tell you the tragic deder in a horrible fashion by his comestory of a useless subaltern who was murrpanty commander. The president of the court said there was ample justification here comes a bunch—"

"Crump! Rear—br-r-r-r—crash! This means an unimaginable amount of noise. Please, think of an ammunition dump exploding a foot from your ear. I did not lose consciousness, I'm sorry to say, so I heard most of my companions' remarks. The C.S.M. was not in it with Little Herbert. I opened my eyes and fished my pipe stem out of my throat, thus relieving the tension.

GERMAN INTRIGUE IN ITALY DISTINGUISHED ECCLESIASTIC THE CAUSE OF THE TROUBLE.

When the upheaval having for its object the expulsion of Baron Sonnino from office at Rome was at its height, the censor hid the crisis from a highly interested Press in Europe. No despatch bearing upon the situation can be sent over by the Vatican, although the *Bund* (Berne), most pro-German of Swiss dailies, feels confident that Sonnino must quit the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and that with him will disappear the British influence in that quarter. The crisis is explained in Switzerland as the result of the fact that the poor can get nothing out of it. Alarmist reports on the Italian situation emanating from Switzerland are ascribed to the distinguished Roman Catholic ecclesiastic, Monsignor Gerlach, who had to fly from the Vatican because the government sought to cast him into prison. He was last heard of in the diocese of Colne, the bishop of which, Monsignor Schmitz von Gruneeck, is styled in the Paris *Debat* the great pro-German. All the rumours of impending revolution in Italy, of political pandemonium in the Quirinal and of the difficulty the French and British Ambassadors are having in keeping the Italian Ministry in power, backed though they are by American gold, emanate from Monsignor Gerlach, suspected of complicity in the destruction of the two warships that blew up so mysteriously not long ago. The Monsignor likewise bribed the obscure Italian dailies, whose unimportant opinions on the crisis are quoted with triumph in the Berlin *Kreuz-Zeitung*. But these are all French newspaper impressions.

MYSTERIES OF THE VATICAN ONCE MORE.

Benedict XV. is overwhelmed by the extent to which his good faith was impudently used by the brilliant German ecclesiastic Monsignor Gerlach, who, until he died, was so conspicuous an ornament of the pontifical court. He might still be prosecuting his multifarious activities as a German secret agent in the shadow of the papal throne if it had not occurred to Signor De Felice to put some questions to Signor Bonelli in the chamber. That, says the *Temps*, gave the police their signal. A Roman knew the somewhat powerfully protected German propaganda and spy system must be active in the eternal city. It was directed from Switzerland, where Prince von Bulow had left his right-hand man, Baron von Stockauer (or Stuckhammer) in the capacity of Press agent, treasurer and chief of the spy system. How Monsignor von Gerlach managed to escape the Italian police, not upon a trail, is another mystery. The police in Rome profess to have uncovered a plot, ramifying into every section of a Roman society, to detach Italy from the Western Powers and, failing that, to gain a revolution. Until the censorship is relaxed it will be impossible to quote at lucid comment upon the crisis, seeing that even the well-informed *Tribuna* gives only scraps, and the *Messenger* is understood to have had a long study of the "conspiracy" suppressed altogether. Even of the most critical character, the German dailies hint, are coming, but here, as the French organs hint, we must take allowance for the misinterpretation of Monsignor Gerlach.

ASTONISHMENT OF THE VATICAN THE COURSE OF MONS. GERLACH.

The revelation of the part played by Vatican diplomacy in the pro-German conspiracies of Monsignor Gerlach, who, when Pope Benedict, says the *Temps*, His Holiness, we read, had no suspicion that the pro-German Press agent, financed from Germany, through von Gerlach, existed close at hand. The German prelate had funds with which Italian journalists were bribed, with which spies were placed in the Italian foreign office itself, and with which conspirators were paid. Treason was plotted on a scale which the censorship has not permitted the outside world to know exactly. It is known, however, that Monsignor Gerlach is not the only exalted ecclesiastic involved in the affair. A prelate in whom Benedict XV. reposed the utmost confidence is now under arrest. This prelate, apparently, was the dupe of the insinuating Gerlach, or so the French Press understands. He had duped in the Chamber as well, more than one deputy having been seduced by the Monsignor's eloquent observations regarding the horrors of war. The particular business of Monsignor Gerlach was to spread throughout Rome and in the Italian Press an impression of the might of military Germany and of the weakness of the Western Powers. News, figures, confidential comments and State secrets were all set forth by Monsignor Gerlach, who, politically too, that Roman society, Roman political circles and Roman newspapers abided by the idea that the Central Powers were carrying all before them. A veritable panic on the subject of Italy spread to the Allies in western Europe, the rumours being all the more optimistic owing to the action of the censor in Paris and London. The operations of Monsignor Gerlach were facilitated by the obscurantism of the censors in Paris and London, says the *Debat*, who suppressed revelations that would have ended the career of Gerlach weeks ago.

DETERMINATION OF ITALY TO GO ON WITH THE WAR.

So relations between the Vatican and the Quirinal have been in no sense strained by the Gerlach episode, observe the informed newspaper correspondents at Rome. The *Temps* and the *Debat* say that everything possible has been done by the Cardinal Secretary of State, Monsignor Gasparri, to enlighten the Italian authorities regarding the mystic that remains. Premier Boselli is said to regard the affair as closed. The war was brought up, the foreign newspaper hint, at the recent conference between Mr. Lloyd George, Baron Sonnino and premier Ribot, of France. The whole Italian situation was gone into thoroughly and assurances were given

(Continued at foot of next column.)

SHIPPING AFTER THE WAR. QUESTION IN THE HOUSE OF LORDS.

In the House of Lords recently Lord Clifford of Chudleigh asked whether the Government realised the full importance of taking the most drastic steps to ensure that not only should present shipbuilding keep pace with submarine destruction, but the tonnage of our mercantile fleet should be kept at such a standard as would ensure it being in a position paramount to that of any other nation after the war; and whether such steps as had so far been undertaken were producing results that would warrant the conclusion that not only should we be able materially to outnumber the mercantile fleets as well as the naval tonnage of all other nations when this war came to an end; also whether our present rate of construction was progressing at such a pace as would prevent other neutral nations jumping our claims as regards the world's sea carriage. If not, why were not such precautions being taken?

The Earl of Durham (L) stated that a Committee which was appointed by the Institute of Naval Architects, had inquired into the means of providing further protection for cargo and passenger ships. A preliminary report on the subject of cargo ships had been sent to the Board of Trade and the Shipping Controller. The second and final report would be in the hands of the Admiralty in a few days' time, and he trusted that the Government would pay special attention to it.

Earl Carson (Lord President of the Council) said that with regard to shipbuilding naturally the Admiralty had the first call on the whole shipbuilding resources of the nation. The result of the naval programme undoubtedly would be that, at the end of the war our naval tonnage would materially outnumber that of other nations. With regard to merchant shipping, he would give the House general figures showing the comparison of the Mercantile Marine of this country with the Mercantile Marine of the rest of the world. Taking first steamers of 100 tons and upwards at the end of June, 1914, the United Kingdom and the Dominions possessed 10,124 ships with a tonnage of 20,523,700. In December last the figures were: total number of ships 9,757, with a total tonnage of 19,785,516. At the end of June, 1914, the ships of all other countries of 100 tons and upwards numbered 14,320, with a tonnage of 24,889,171, and in December last the number was 13,749, with a tonnage of 24,002,943. These figures showed that our percentage of the total was 45.3 in the one case and 44.2 in the other. Taking the larger vessels of 1,800 tons and upwards, and taking a later period in order to bring the figures within the scope of the German submarine campaign, in June, 1914, there were just short of 3,900 vessels with an aggregate gross tonnage of 16,800,000 belonging to the United Kingdom. This might be taken as more than half the effective tonnage of the world. (Cheers.) Taking the corresponding figures on March 31st of the present year, the number of vessels of 1,800 tons and upwards in the United Kingdom was about 3,500, and the tonnage was just a little short of 16,000,000. With regard to other countries, it must be borne in mind that the losses of other countries, especially Norway, had been very heavy, and that, with the exception of the United States and Japan, which were in a much more favourable position, other countries were not in a position to increase their Mercantile Marine very much. Japan and the United States were increasing their mercantile fleets, but, of course, the ultimate increase would depend on the duration of the war and the development of the submarine risk.

The programme that the Minister of Shipping in this country was pressing for would work out, at about 3,000,000 gross tons per annum, but if such an output was to be realised it would be necessary to provide an additional 100,000 workmen and to double the supply of steel per week, while allowing at the same time the present Admiralty programme to proceed. Meanwhile demands for more men and material were coming from the Army, Agricultural, Munitions, and the Timber, Departments, and the task of adjudicating between these rival claims was not merely a painful operation but overwhelming. In answer to the questions on the part of the Government were taking the most drastic steps to acquire merchant ships by building, purchase, or any other method open to them. There was good ground for the view that our mercantile fleet would be superior to that of any other nation at the end of the war. The report and recommendations of the Committee of the Institute of Naval Architects alluded to by Lord Durham had been referred to the Minister of Shipping, and were being carefully considered by him and his expert advisers.

A MILITARY MARK TAPLEY.

Mr. W. Douglas Newton tells a story of a soldier now in a London hospital. "He received a bayonet wound through the throat over a year ago, and since that time seems to have lived most of his life on the operating table. He has had thirty-five operations, and is awaiting another. In spite of this, he will not see any but the brightest side of life. He spends his time looking after the whom he insists are worse off than himself. He is the eyes of blinded comrades and the hands of others who have lost their arms. And when he cannot help wounded men, he helps the nurses. He is the chiefest man in London."

that the Roman government would prosecute the war with greater energy than ever. The Italian dailies welcomed this development effusively, the *Tribuna* occasionally on points of detail, affirming that he reflected the best opinion at home in his friendly attitude to England. The meaning of the conference, according to the *Idea Nazionale* (Rome), was that the war would never end until the common ends of the Entente Powers were realized. [A recent telegram stated that Mgr. Gerlach had been sentenced, in absentia, to imprisonment for life.]

MINISTER'S GRAVE WARNING. OFFENSIVE ENDANGERED.

Grave statements affecting our supplies of munitions to the armies at the front were made by Dr. Addison, Minister of Munitions, to a number of journalists whom he received at the Hotel Metropole on May 14th, in the course of a careful explanation of the strike in the engineering trade.

"People say," observed Dr. Addison, "that they have heaps of shells in France. That is really not the point. I am glad to say they have plenty of shells in France, but these strikes are particularly affecting such things as big guns, tanks, aeroplanes, and motors—the supply of all these has been gravely affected. The continuation of the offensive in June depends upon the things which are now being finished in the shops."

"We lost three weeks over the supply of important war munitions at Barrow. That will be felt later, but what is being held up now is that which will affect the soldiers in June and July, as they will not, unless rapid work is resumed, be able to go forward with that protection from tanks that they should have. This is the gravest feature of the whole thing." Proceeding, the Minister said that Tanks were now very popular in France, and there were few things the authorities had more difficulty in getting ready than these. The real problem was the securing of spare parts for these war machines. The demands for them were so great that during the past few weeks he had made two separate orders, one for 1,200 tons and another for 700 tons of steel per week to be set aside for Tank "spares"—2,000 tons a week for this purpose alone.

There were two main questions, and there had been a great deal of misunderstanding in connection with both of them. The first (said Dr. Addison) was connected with the dilution of labour on commercial work, and the second with the trade card system. Originally it was agreed with the unions that the dilution should not extend to commercial work. When it was discovered towards the end of last year that it was quite impossible, without making greater inroads on the skilled labour for munitions, to obtain trade was called with the craft unions, and it was generally recognised that private trade should be kept alive as far as possible. An understanding was arrived at with twenty-eight unions in the shipbuilding and engineering trades as to the conditions under which dilution could be carried on in private work. This year it had also been necessary to extend very much the great trades controlled more or less by the Ministry of Munitions. The department had become responsible for the supply of agricultural implements.

They found that the dilution of private labour was going on to a considerable extent, and it was represented to them by many responsible men that the unions, in respect to the dilution of private work, were not in the position to give the same satisfactory guarantees as they were on war work. During the last few months the Ministry had been responsible for the supply of aeroplanes, and had become much more in need than ever before of a great increased supply of skilled labour. The same applied to a considerable extent to the supply of tanks, and those were very complicated machines. At the same time there was nothing the country was more in need of than ships, and the Ministry had to assist as far as possible to meet the increased demands of men for marine engineering.

40,000 MEN FROM THE ARMY.

With this need for skilled men, continued Dr. Addison, the anxiety of the Ministry of Munitions and the Admiralty was not to drive skilled men into the Army, but to keep them in the shop. That had been their desire for months past. They had brought 40,000 skilled men back from the Army to the workshop. It had been given out by some of those who had been responsible for the present strikes that there was an intention to institute a wholesale conscription of skilled men, but the authorities would not do very deeply with the engineering trades, which were subject to dilution, and recognised that they were making a great mistake. They had spent in the aggregate weeks in conference with various representative trade unions.

Additional safeguards which had been put into the bill for bringing into effect the scheme for the dilution of skilled labour, to prevent rate-cutting, to speed up the extension of wage awards, and other matters, had been taken no notice of, and were not perhaps in the knowledge of the men who were encouraging the strikers. Two or three real grievances arising under the original Munitions of War Act had been dealt with. The trade card system worked very badly. As an instance he mentioned that some time ago there was a call-up according to the age period. The men with trade cards were exempt, but what happened was a number of skilled men were called up because they did not possess a trade card—they were not in one of the unions' issuing cards—and for a week or so the production of aeroplane engines was enormously interfered with. The release of these men was at once obtained. There had been masses of cases in which skilled men in shops were called up, whilst a number of comparatively unskilled men in shops were in the possession of trade cards, and this system failed to protect a large number of men who were wanted, because a number of big unions that were not parties to the trade card agreement had large numbers of skilled members. They had had a case of a man who was in charge of a gang who was called up while the men under him were exempted because they had trade cards.

(Continued at foot of next column.)

GREAT DEEDS OF BRITISH AIRMEN.

AMAZING STORY OF A SINGLE FLIGHT.

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS, April 18th.
Here is the record of a single fight of one of our airmen, made within the last few days:

"When our machines were attacked at Cambrai I attacked a hostile aviator at about 3,000 feet. I saw that I hit his engine as we closed with one another. I half looped to one side of him, and then he dived with a trail of blue smoke. I dived after him to about 4,000 feet and fired about 50 rounds into him, when he went down absolutely out of control. I watched him spinning down to about 1,000 feet, the trail of smoke increasing."

"I was immediately attacked by three enemy machines, which drove me down to about 200 feet. We were firing at one another whenever possible, when at last I got into a good position and attacked one of them from above, having another on my right. I closed on the latter, turning in on him so close that I could get a sight actually of the pilot's head, and the machine then simply heeled over and spun to the ground. The other two machines cleared off."

"Having lost sight of all the other machines and being so low, I decided to fly home at about that height, namely, 200 feet. A company of German cavalry going east along a small road halted and fired on me; also several machine-guns opened fire."

"After going west for about five minutes I was again attacked by an enemy single seater, and as he approached I rocked my machine until he was within 50 yards. I side-looped over him and fired a short burst at him. He seemed to clear off and then attacked me again. These operations were repeated several times, with slight variations in the way times. I looked over him, until within about five minutes of crossing the line (flying against a strong wind), when he was about 150 yards behind me. I looped straight over him, and coming out of the loop, fired a good long burst. I saw where I hit the pilot in the back just above the edge of the cockpit. He immediately dived straight into the ground."

"I then went over the German trenches filled with soldiers, and was fired on by machine-guns, rifles, and small field guns in or out of range. There was a lot of artillery firing going on, and many of our shells bursting in and about the German trenches, somewhere in the vicinity of the Cambrai road. I saw many small companies of infantry and cavalry, about 10 to 50 in each, going east along small roads. I noted no convoys or movements of artillery."

"I landed at the first aerodrome I saw. My machine was badly shot about. Perhaps there may have been tales as wonderful invented somewhere by makers of fiction, but surely such tales are not to be found in anything we know, even in the 'Arabian Nights'."

AEROPLANE LOSSES ON THE WESTERN FRONT.

"Seven hundred and seventeen aeroplanes were brought down on the Western front during April," says the *Times*.

"The total figures of aeroplane losses in April reveal in a way that the daily official returns do not give the unproven intensity of the struggle for mastery in the air which was waged on the Western front during that month between Allied, and particularly British, airmen and German airmen. There has not been a month of such fighting since the war began, and the losses have never reached such a tremendous figure."

"This total, which is compiled from the daily *communiqués* issued by British, French, and German Headquarters, is made up as follows:—German machines, 393; British, 147; French and Belgian (again, as always, with the necessary qualification that the German claims are trustworthy), 201. Of the 393 German aeroplanes brought down, 269 fell to the British, 96 to the French, and two to the Belgians."

It had also been found that there were a number of men with trade cards who had no right to be protected by them, as they were not in possession of the necessary skill—A system which in practice gave unjust discrimination between different unions could not be defended. A conference of the unions was called, and they were told that the system could not continue. The schedule, which had been the subject of the grossest possible misrepresentation, was introduced, and the basis of it was that a man was exempted on the ground of his skill, and on no other ground. Sixty-six local complaint committees, consisting of one trade unionist and a Government representative, had been instituted, and there were eight central committees, on which Labour was represented in equal parts.

They could not disguise the fact that this particular unrest had been largely engineered by the shop stewards. The authorities could only deal with the main organisations. There were 80,000 shops in the engineering trades alone, and it was obviously impossible for the Ministry to negotiate with large collections of the stewards of these places.

"I am sure," concluded Dr. Addison, "that there has never been a State department that has spent more hours and been at greater pains to consult the representatives of labour than the Ministry of Munitions, but it is quite impossible for us to be parties to, or to give our countenance to, movements which appear to be designed to make trouble for the nation, and to be part of a scheme for upsetting the authority of the central unions. We have said all along that we will not deal with the men. A number of Australian munition workers employed at a certain factory where engineers have gone on strike have passed a resolution against the strike, and have stated their willingness to volunteer for active service in a body."—*Daily Telegraph*.

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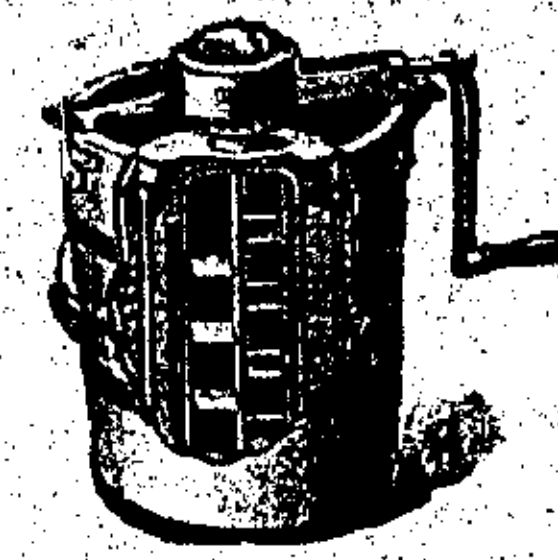
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FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

TO-DAY.

11 a.m.—Auction of 10 Sales Ungrazed White Paper at Sales Rooms, by Mr. Geo. P. Lammer.

Monday, 16th July.—3 p.m.—Auction of Crown Land at Public Works Dept.

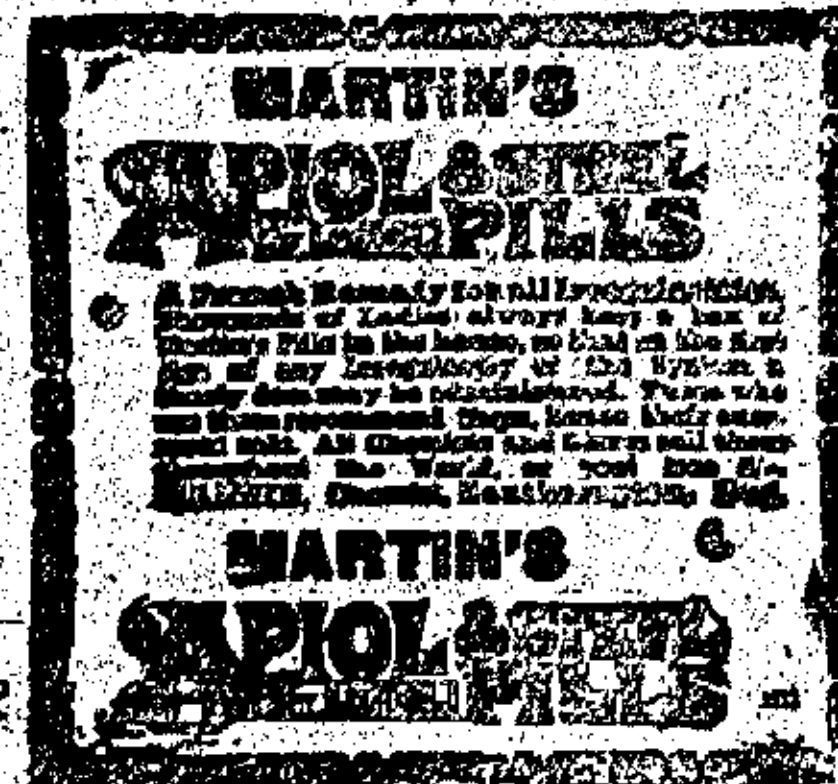
Thursday, 19th July.—12.30 p.m.—British Traders' Insurance Co. Ltd., Extraordinary General Meeting.

Thursday, 21st July.—Noon—Auction of Valuable Leasehold Property from the Liquidators of Messrs. Johnson & Co., at Sales Rooms, by Mr. Geo. P. Lammer.

Monday, 18th Aug.—Noon—Hongkong Cotton Spinning Weaving and Dyeing Co., Ltd., Extraordinary General Meeting at the Office of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., Ltd.

3 p.m.—Auction of Valuable Leasehold Property at Sales Rooms, by Messrs. Hughes & Hough.

Monday, 27th Aug.—Noon—Auction of Valuable Leasehold Property from the Liquidators of Messrs. Johnson & Co., at Sales Rooms, by Mr. Geo. P. Lammer.



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